



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

MEULMAN ET AL.

Serial Number: 09/380,695

Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed: September 3, 1999

Examiner: To be assigned

For: USE OF A 7α -METHYL- 17α -ETHYNYL-ESTRANE DERIVATIVE FOR THE TREATMENT OF ATHEROSCLEROSIS

Corresponding to: PCT/EP98/01293, filed March 3, 1998

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

November 30, 2000

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the fee in the above-identified application, please make the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (amended) A method of inhibiting the atherosclerotic process, comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount [Use] of a 7α -methyl- 17α -ethynyl-estrane derivative having the general formula I

